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Abstract of the Disclosure

A lamp 1 has a body 2 of sintered alumina ceramic material and an artificial sapphire window 3. The body 2 is initially moulded in green state and the window is pressed into a front recess 4. The combination is fired at a temperature of the order of 1500°C, to fuse the body into a coherent pressure-tight state with the window. After partial cooling to the order of 600°C, a pellet of excitable material is added through a rear, charging aperture 5. A disc 6 of ceramic with frit 7 is placed over the aperture. The disc is irradiated by laser to fuse the frit and the disc to the body, thus sealing the excitable material into the lamp.